

Message Text

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20

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

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P R 210954Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4463

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

DIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMNR SHAPE

EUCOM

USDOCOLOANDSOUTHEAST IZMIR

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NICOSIA 2900

USCINCEUR FOR POLAD

USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: MPOL, PFOR, TU, CY

SUBJ: TURKISH TROOP WITHDRAWALS FROM CYPRUS

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PAGE 02 NICOSI 02900 211123Z

REF: ANKARA 7173 (DTG 181000Z SEP 76) NOTAL

1. TURK CYPRIOT PRESS WIDELY REPORTED CEREMONIES HELD IN FAMAGUSTA
SEPT 17 FOR DEPARTING TURKISH TROOPS. TURKISH CYPRIOT
NEWS AGENCY (TAK), QUOTING UNIDENTIFIED SOURCES, REPORTED
THAT 3,000 OFFICERS AND MEN HAD DEPARTED, BRINGING TOTAL TROOP
DEPARTURES TO 14,000 AND CURRENT STRENGTH TO 20-25,000. TAK
ALSO REPORTED THAT ADDITIONAL UNIT NUMBERING 300 WOULD BE
WITHDRAWN SHORTLY.

2. TURK CYPRIOT LEADER DENKTASH, ASKED TO COMMENT ON WITH-
DRAWALS, SAID THAT IT WAS NATURAL FOR TURKISH FORCES
IN CYPRUS TO BE REDUCED AS SECURITY SITUATION STABILIZED AND
THAT MORE UNITS WILL BE WITHDRAWN AFTER TURKISH CYPRIOT
SECURITY FORCE IS REORGANIZED.

3. COMMENT: IF OUR MEMORY SERVES US CORRECTLY, TURKF
HJVE FORMALLY ANNOUNCED CN PAST TRMOP REDUCTIONS TOTALLING
12,000. THUS, IF NEW TOTAL OF 14,000 IS ACCURATE, EITHER
PREVIOUS REDUCTIONS WERE LESS THAN THOSE ANNOUNCED OR
CURRENT REDUCTION IS LESS THAN 3,000 REPORTED IN PRESS.
DAO CYPRUS ESTIMATED IN AUGUST THAT TURKISH TROOP STRENGTH
IN CYPRUS WAS ON THE HIGH SIDE OF 25-28,000 RANGE. ALLOWING
FOR SOME INACCURACY ON SLIPPAGE IN REPORTED 3,000-MAN FIGURE
FOR RECENT REDUCTION, WE BELIEVE CURRENT TROOP LEVELS TO BE
IN 23-26,000 RANGE.
CRAWFORD

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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